

On the generic name *Peckhamia* Simon 1900 (Araneae, SALTICIDAE)

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Abstract. In order to resolve an instance of misidentified type species, under Article 70.3 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature I select and fix *Synemosyna scorpionia* Hentz, 1846 to be the type species of *Peckhamia* Simon, 1900 (usually cited as 1901), a genus of ant-like salticid spiders from the New World. Acting as First Reviser, for the sake of stability and universality I also establish *Peckhamia* Simon, 1900 as the valid name for this genus, granting it precedence over its simultaneously published subjective synonym *Consingis* Simon, 1900.

As was noted by Cutler in the unpublished part of his Ph.D. dissertation (1970), Simon (1900) proposed two generic names for two different species of ant-like salticid spiders. *Consingis* Simon, 1900 (p. 404) was based on a description of the type species by original designation, *Consingis semicana* Simon, 1900. The name *Peckhamia* Simon, 1900 (p. 404) occurs as a footnote to that diagnosis, with no description, but with the designation of *Synemosyna scorpionea* (sic; misspelling of *scorpionia*) Hentz, 1846 as type species. Simon (1901, p. 496) later provided a complete description of *Peckhamia*, while also redescribing *Consingis* (p. 496) and, except for Cutler (1987, p. 328), later workers have universally attributed *Peckhamia* to Simon, 1901.

Under Article 12.2.5 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (hereafter, Code), the use of an available specific name — not necessarily that of the type species — in combination with a new genus-group name constitutes an ‘indication’, making the latter name available, as long as the specific name can be unambiguously assigned to a nominal species-group taxon. *Synemosyna scorpionea* is easily recognized as a misspelling of *S. scorpionia*, an available nominal species-group taxon, thus fulfilling this condition for *Peckhamia*.

On the other hand, the specimen of *S. scorpionia* examined by Simon and on which he based his generic concept, was reexamined by Cutler (1970) and is not conspecific with *S. scorpionia* (it was a single palp of another *Peckhamia*, possibly *P. americana*, with the original specimen apparently lost) and he included it in *Consingis* as an unpublished new species with the manuscript name of *C. paradoxa*, with its synonymy with *Synemosyna scorpionia* Hentz placed in question because the palp in the vial did not fit with the overall morphology of Hentz’s description. Since then specimens which actually fit Hentz’s 1846 description have been discovered and it is obvious that the palp in the vial was misplaced. This situation constitutes an instance of misidentified type species. Under Article 70.3 of the Code, in order best to serve stability and universality, I hereby select and fix the nominal species that has previously been cited as type species, viz., *Synemosyna scorpionia* Hentz, 1846 to be the type species of *Peckhamia* Simon, 1900, not the species actually involved in the misidentification, *C. paradoxa* sensu Cutler 1970. The name *Consingis* and the combination *C. semicana* have to my knowledge only been used in three publications, other than catalogues and some web sites, since Simon’s (1900) original description (Simon 1901, p. 496; Galiano 1963, p. 331; Galiano 1974, pp. 2–5), the most recent

being 40 years ago. On the other hand, in that time *Peckhamia* has been used numerous times for multiple species in over 30 publications by nearly 30 authors (Peckham & Peckham, 1909, pp. 365, 367, 640, Emerton, 1909, pp. 232–233; Comstock, 1912, pp. 677, 707–708; Gertsch, 1936, pp. 18–20; Chickering, 1944, pp. 181, 182–186; Chickering, 1946, pp. 414–419; Kaston, 1948, pp. 451–452, 742–745; Crane, 1949, pp. 162–163; Galiano, 1965, pp. 270, 310; Levi & Levi, 1968, p. 105; Prószyński, 1976; p. 17; Richman & Roth, 1976, p. 199; Edwards & Hill, 1978, pp. 112, 115; Kaston, 1978, p. 245; Richman, 1978, pp. 77–78; Richman, 1981, p. 18; Edwards, 1982, pp. 33–34; Richman, 1982, p. 51; Roach & Edwards 1984, pp. 53, 54; Gaddy & Morse, 1985, p. 151; Galiano, 1986, pp. 129, 137–139; Cutler, 1987, pp. 321, 327–328; Roth, 1993, pp. 152–153, 160; Jackman, 1997, p. 133; Paquin & Dupérré, 2003, pp. 190–191, 197; Ubick et al., 2005, pp. 206, 209, 313; Makhan, 2006, pp. 29–32, 34; Richman, 2008, p. 45; Edwards & Hill, 2008, pp. 7, 8; Bradley, 2013, p. 195, pl. 65; Hill & Edwards, 2013, pp. 43–44; Adams, 2014, p. 176, pl. 37).

Recent studies of *Consingis semicana* and *Peckhamia scorpionia* in preparation for a revision of these ant-like spiders have shown that they are congeneric. Since they are type species, their simultaneously published respective genera are subjective synonyms. Based on overall usage of the two names since 1900, it seems best for stability and universality that *Peckhamia* continue to be used as valid. Acting as First Reviser under Article 24.2.2 of the Code, I hereby assign *Peckhamia* Simon, 1900 precedence over *Consingis* Simon, 1900. I further recognize *Peckhamia* as the valid name for this genus and *Consingis* as its junior subjective synonym.

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The Case is hereby closed.